

Aw Tozer The Knowledge Of The Holy

Introduction: The Timeless Call to Know God

In an age of distraction, noise, and information overload, the soul's deepest hunger often goes unnoticed. Yet, buried beneath the chaos of modern life, there remains a profound longing for something more—something eternal. Few books have addressed this longing with as much depth, clarity, and spiritual gravitas as **Aw Tozer The Knowledge Of The Holy**. Written by the late pastor and theologian Aiden Wilson Tozer, this classic work invites readers to step away from the shallows of superficial religion and into the vast, awe-inspiring ocean of who God truly is. For decades, **Aw Tozer The Knowledge Of The Holy** has served as a spiritual compass for believers seeking to understand the majesty, holiness, and character of the Creator. It is not merely a book to be read; it is an experience to be absorbed, a meditation to be prayed, and a truth to be lived.

What makes **Aw Tozer The Knowledge Of The Holy** so enduring is its unflinching focus on the attributes of God. Tozer does not offer easy answers or sentimental platitudes. Instead, he calls readers to a higher understanding—one that begins with reverence and ends with worship. This article will explore the background of A.W. Tozer, the central themes of this seminal work, the key attributes of God it examines, and why its message is more necessary today than ever before.

Who Was A.W. Tozer? The Man Behind the Message

Aiden Wilson Tozer (1897–1963) was a pastor, author, and spiritual mentor known for his deep piety, prophetic voice, and relentless pursuit of God. Serving for over 30 years as the pastor of Southside Alliance Church in Chicago, Tozer was self-educated yet profoundly learned in Scripture, church history, and Christian mysticism. He was a man who walked with God in a way that was both intimate and reverent, and his writings reflect that rare combination.

Tozer's influence extended far beyond his congregation. He became the editor of *Alliance Life* magazine, and his books—including **Aw Tozer The Knowledge Of The Holy**, *The Pursuit of God*, and *Born After Midnight*—have sold millions of copies worldwide. What set Tozer apart was not his eloquence or academic credentials, but his ability to articulate the grandeur of God in a way that stirred the soul. He wrote not to impress, but to transform. His goal was always the same: to lead people into a deeper, more authentic encounter with the

living God.

Aw Tozer The Knowledge Of The Holy stands as perhaps his greatest achievement in this regard. It is a systematic yet devotional exploration of God's nature, designed to restore a sense of awe and wonder that had largely been lost in modern Christianity.

Overview: What Is "The Knowledge of the Holy" About?

First published in 1961, **Aw Tozer The Knowledge Of The Holy** is a compact but powerful book that examines the attributes of God. Tozer opens with a sobering observation: the Church's understanding of God has become shallow, and this shallowness is the root of many spiritual problems. He writes, "What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us." This single sentence captures the essence of the entire book.

The book is structured around 23 chapters, each focusing on a specific attribute of God. These include God's infinitude, immensity, goodness, justice, mercy, grace, omniscience, omnipotence, and holiness, among others. Tozer does not treat these attributes as abstract concepts to be dissected intellectually. Rather, he presents them as realities to be contemplated, prayed through, and worshiped. Each chapter is a meditation that invites the reader to pause, reflect, and allow the truth of God's character to sink deep into the heart.

One of the most striking aspects of **Aw Tozer The Knowledge Of The Holy** is its refusal to separate theology from devotion. For Tozer, knowing about God is inseparable from knowing God. The book is therefore both a theological treatise and a devotional guide. It challenges the reader to move beyond mere intellectual assent and into a living relationship with the Holy One.

Key Themes in "The Knowledge of the Holy"

The Primacy of God's Holiness

Tozer places God's holiness at the center of his discussion. He argues that holiness is not merely one attribute among many, but the very essence of God's being. In **Aw Tozer The Knowledge Of The Holy**, holiness is described as the attribute that permeates all others. God's love is a holy love; His justice is a holy justice; His mercy is a holy mercy. Without an understanding of holiness, our conception of God becomes distorted and diminished.

Tozer writes with passion about the need to recover a sense of the fear of the Lord. He does not mean fear in the sense of terror, but a

reverent awe that recognizes God's absolute otherness and moral perfection. This theme is especially relevant in a culture that often treats God as a casual friend or a cosmic vending machine.

The Dangers of a Diminished View of God

Another major theme in **Aw Tozer The Knowledge Of The Holy** is the warning that a low view of God leads to a weak and corrupted faith. Tozer laments that many Christians have created a God in their own image—a God who is manageable, predictable, and safe. This idol, he argues, is not the God of the Bible. The true God is incomprehensible, sovereign, and glorious. Tozer calls believers to abandon their small thoughts and embrace the vastness of God's majesty.

This theme resonates powerfully today. In an era of self-help spirituality and therapeutic religion, Tozer's prophetic voice reminds us that the goal of faith is not self-fulfillment but the glory of God. **Aw Tozer The Knowledge Of The Holy** challenges the reader to ask: "Is my God big enough to be worshiped, or is He merely a tool for my comfort?"

The Necessity of Contemplation and Silence

Tozer also emphasizes the importance of quiet reflection in knowing God. He laments the busyness and activism that characterize much of modern Christianity. In **Aw Tozer The Knowledge Of The Holy**, he urges readers to slow down, to be still, and to allow their minds to dwell on the majesty of God. He believed that without periods of silent contemplation, the soul cannot truly know its Maker. This theme is especially countercultural in our fast-paced, screen-obsessed world.

The Attributes of God Explored in the Book

Tozer's exploration of God's attributes is both systematic and poetic. Below are some of the key attributes he examines in **Aw Tozer The Knowledge Of The Holy**:

- **The Infinity of God:** God is without limit or boundary. Tozer reflects on the incomprehensible vastness of God, encouraging readers to expand their minds beyond human categories.
- **The Immensity of God:** Related to infinity, God's immensity means He is present everywhere in the fullness of His being. Tozer uses this attribute to inspire awe and comfort.
- **The Goodness of God:** Tozer presents God's goodness as the source of all that is lovely and desirable. He argues that goodness flows from God's nature and is not defined by human standards.

- **The Justice of God:** God's justice is perfect and impartial. Tozer shows that justice is not in conflict with love, but is an expression of God's holy character.
- **The Mercy and Grace of God:** Tozer beautifully describes mercy as God's compassion for the miserable, and grace as His unmerited favor toward the undeserving. These attributes give hope to the sinner.
- **The Omniscience of God:** God knows all things perfectly and simultaneously. Tozer uses this truth to humble the proud and comfort the anxious.
- **The Omnipotence of God:** God possesses all power and can do anything consistent with His nature. Tozer reminds readers that this power is wielded with wisdom and love.
- **The Holiness of God:** As noted, holiness is the central theme. Tozer writes that holiness is the "mystery of mysteries" and the foundation of true worship.

Each of these attributes is presented not as a dry doctrine, but as a living reality that transforms the one who contemplates it. **Aw Tozer The Knowledge Of The Holy** is designed to move the reader from information to adoration.

Why "The Knowledge of the Holy" Remains Relevant Today

It has been over sixty years since **Aw Tozer The Knowledge Of The Holy** was first published, yet its message has never been more urgent. The 21st-century Church faces a crisis of identity and depth. Entertainment often replaces worship, programs replace prayer, and celebrity pastors replace prophetic voices. In this environment, Tozer's call to return to a high view of God is a lifeline.

Furthermore, the cultural climate of skepticism, secularism, and religious pluralism has eroded confidence in absolute truth. **Aw Tozer The Knowledge Of The Holy** offers a firm foundation. It reminds believers that God is not a concept to be debated, but a Person to be known. The book also speaks to those who are weary of shallow religion and hungry for something real. Tozer's honest, reverent, and passionate approach resonates with seekers and skeptics alike.

The book's emphasis on the majesty and transcendence of God also provides a necessary corrective to the overly familiar, buddy-like approach to God that is common in many circles. Tozer does not discourage intimacy with God, but he insists that true intimacy must be rooted in reverence. We cannot truly love a God we have never learned to fear.

How to Apply the Teachings of "The Knowledge of the Holy"

Reading **Aw Tozer The Knowledge Of The Holy** is only the beginning. Tozer would be disappointed if the book were merely admired and not applied. Here are practical ways to incorporate its teachings into daily life:

1. **Read the Book Slowly and Prayerfully:** Do not rush through the chapters. Read one chapter per day and spend time in quiet reflection afterward. Tozer's writing is dense with meaning and deserves to be savored.
2. **Meditate on One Attribute at a Time:** Choose a single attribute of God each week and focus your thoughts, prayers, and journaling on that attribute. Let it shape your understanding and worship.
3. **Incorporate Silence into Your Devotional Life:** Set aside time each day to sit in silence before God. Turn off all distractions and allow your mind to rest in His presence. This practice is central to Tozer's approach.
4. **Study the Scriptures Alongside the Book:** Tozer frequently references Scripture. Look up the passages he cites and meditate on them in their context. The Bible is the ultimate source of knowledge about God.
5. **Discuss the Book with Others:** Join or form a small group to discuss **Aw Tozer The Knowledge Of The Holy**. Sharing insights and wrestling with the material together deepens understanding.
6. **Pray the Attributes:** Turn the attributes into prayers. For example, pray, "Lord, I worship You as the Holy One. Teach me to reverence Your name and to walk in awe of Your majesty."
7. **Examine Your View of God:** Honestly assess whether your view of God is shaped by Scripture or by culture. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal any small, distorted images of God that may have taken root in your heart.

By applying these practices, the truths contained in **Aw Tozer The Knowledge Of The Holy** will move from the page into the heart, transforming the way you think, pray, and live.

Conclusion: A Call to Know the Holy One

Aw Tozer The Knowledge Of The Holy is more than a book; it is an invitation. It invites us to leave behind the trivial